GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2844
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
NATURAL CALAMITIES
JAI PRAKASH;JITENDRA PRASADA;LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH;THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Alliance of People`s Movements (NAPM) has asked the Union and State Governments to devise long-term solutions for combating drought conditions in the country as drought has become a recurring feature;

(b) whether it is the outcome of bad planning and lack of planning in certain areas;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether there is a demand from the State Governments to make provisions in the Union Budget to face natural calamities;

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(f) whether the release of funds from the Natural Calamity Relief Fund (NCRF) for Tamil Nadu has been pending for the last ten years;
(g) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the said fund is likely to be released to State; and
(h) the procedure adopted for providing financial assistance to the States from NCRF?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (c) Ministry of Agriculture has not seen any such report of the National Alliance of People`s Movements (NAPM).

(d) & (e) There is ready allocation under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for undertaking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities, to which the Central and State Governments contribute in the ratio 3:1. Central share of CRF is released to the States in instalments.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) The scheme of National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) has come to an end on 31.3.2000For 1995-2000, the releases from NFCR were decided by the National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC), a sub-Committee of the National Development Counci keeping in view the Memorandum of the State, Report of the Central Team and recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG).